

**SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT**  
**SITUATION REPORT #01**  
**Water Supply Contingency Plan Implementation- 2000**  
**Monday, September 25, 2000 – 1400 Hours**

**Situation:**

The District has determined that unless levels in the lake increase to near normal level by December there is a high probability that sufficient water supplies from Lake Okeechobee may not be available to meet the needs of the users who depend on the lake as the primary source for water supply.

The District has declared a Water Shortage Warning for users within the South Dade Miami Water Use Basin, The Water Conservation Areas/Everglades National Park Water Use Basin, The Water Conservation Area 1/C-51 Water Use Basin, the Water Conservation Area 2 Water Use Basin, the Water Conservation Area 3 Water Use Basin, the Everglades Agricultural Area Water Use Basin, the Interior Palm Beach County Water use Basin, the M Canal Water Use Basin, The Lakeshore Perimeter Water Use Basin, The St. Lucie River Water Use Basin, and The Caloosahatchee River Water Use Basin.

**WEATHER CONDITIONS:**

**Short Term:**

Below average rains today and Tuesday, average Wednesday, above average Thursday and Friday. Deep layered high pressure over the Gulf of Mexico will weaken and shift southward in response to an early season cold front over the southeast US. Light steering flow with below average moisture and instability will again produce a below average coverage of afternoon showers and thunderstorms today. Storms will increase north tomorrow as the cold front moves into northern Florida. The front is then expected to stall over the Kissimmee Valley on Wednesday as deep tropical moisture begins to move northward from the Caribbean.

**Long Term:**

Increased chance of below average rainfall during the dry season, especially during the November through March period when 90% of average rainfall is expected based on historical rainfall.

**WATER CONDITIONS:**

**Kissimmee Chain of Lakes:**

On average, the lakes in the Kissimmee Chain of lakes and Lake Istokpoga are approximately 1 foot below their respective regulation schedules, with Lake Alligator over three feet below schedule and Lake Tohopekaliga only 0.17 feet below schedule. The lakes, on average are approximately one foot below their average stage for this time of year.

**Lake Okeechobee Service Area**

Lake Okeechobee is at approximately 12.12 feet NGVD, which is about 3 feet below schedule and approximately 2.7 feet below average for this time of year.

Canals in the Everglades Agriculture Area are at normal wet season stages and are

being operated to provide the authorized level of flood protection for the area. No releases are being made from Lake Okeechobee at this time in accordance with the Corps' operational guidelines. Because of the present lake stage, normal operational criteria requires that runoff from the C-44 basin is directed into Lake Okeechobee instead of to the St. Lucie Estuary.

#### **Water Conservation Areas**

Stages in Water Conservation Area 1 are approximately 0.8 feet below schedule and about 0.5 feet below average. Water Conservation Area 2 is near the regulation schedule but is about 1 foot below average for this time of year. Stages in Water Conservation Area 3 are near regulation and average stages at this time.

#### **Lower East Coast**

Canal water levels along the Lower East Coast are near normal wet season stages and are being operated to provide the authorized level of flood protection for the area.

#### **OPERATIONAL STATUS:**

The District's EOC is activated to a level 2, (partial activation) for implementation of Water Supply Contingency Plan.

#### **TEAM REPORTS:**

##### **ANALYSIS AND PLANNING SECTION:**

##### **Lake Okeechobee Team:**

- Evaluated historical water quality data for backpumping source water at S-2 and S-3 structures.
- Initiated bioassay of backpumping source water at S-2 and S-3 structures using standard EPA test animals (free-swimming invertebrate and bluegill sunfish) and whole community algal species collected from Lake Okeechobee.

##### **Hydrologic Simulation Team:**

- Based on historical data, developed analysis of water supply benefits that may be realized by water supply backpumping into lake Okeechobee at S-2 and S-3 structures.

##### **GIS/Web Page Team:**

- Established Water Supply Contingency web page with link to daily system storage report.

##### **Water Supply Contingency Plan Team:**

- Draft Water Supply contingency Plan under revision and 2nd draft will be posted on the web page 9/26.

#### **LOGISTICS/FINANCE:**

##### **Logistics:**

- Created and refined Preliminary Engineering Report titled "Lake Okeechobee Emergency Water Supply Pumps."
- Submitted specification/work summary document to pump manufacturers and interested vendors describing the pump project and requirements to provide equipment and related services.

- Created Contract Options document outlining various alternatives and combinations of required equipment and related services to meet the needs of the project.
- Drafted Waiver of Competition for the Design and manufacture of specified pumps.
- Drafted Waiver of Competition for the bioassay lab sample testing.
- Drafted Contract Document for the design and manufacture of specified pumps.
- Extensive communication and coordination on-going with pump vendors.

#### **Finance:**

- Set-up financial codes to monitor and track expenditures associated with water shortage activities.
- Assisted in the development of various pump facilities costing scenarios.
- Identified funding sources and financing methods for the project. (Combination of financing and pay-as-you-go).
- Prepared 5 and 7 year debt service schedules for the project.

#### **OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT COORDINATION:**

- Created and refined Preliminary Engineering Report titled “Lake Okeechobee Emergency Water Supply Pumps.”
- Created Contract Options document outlining various alternatives and combinations of required equipment and related services to meet the needs of the project.

#### **Water Conservation Team:**

- Met with Pat Walker to coordinate roles and responsibilities between the two teams. Bruce will work to produce water conservation (WC) information, and Pat's team will distribute info to the service centers, media and public.
- Meeting Friday with Visual Communications to assess existing WC media and develop plan for update and expansion of existing media. Will report results to EOC Managers next Tuesday.
- Contacting local governments and utilities seeking partnerships for WC media campaign (e.g. in kind services, cooperative funding of PSA, utility bill information stuffers etc). Will report results to EOC Managers next Tuesday.

#### **Lake Istokpoga Team:**

- Met with representatives of Seminole Tribe and Lykes Bros regarding proposed water supply source division of the Indian Prairie Basin (upper basin to be provided by Istokpoga and Lykes' reservoir while lower basin provided by Lake O).
- Met with Terrie Bates, Ammon and B. Ross regarding feasibility and constraints of using Lykes reservoir for water supply. Developed a conditional strategy, which was presented to both Lykes and Tribe reps on 9/19.
- Preliminary assessment of expedited environmental clean up for Lake I competed by team. Permitting and funding issues idea. Initial contact with FFWCC not great.

**Modified Supply Side Management Implementation Team:**

- STA demands identified
- Basin boundary and revised acreage being quantified. One week needed for completion of this task

**Lower West Coast Team:**

- Activities have been temporarily suspended as team members are working on Gordon related flood issues.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

- Establish responsibilities with members of Public Information/Communications Team.
- Met and coordinate roles and responsibilities of Public Information/Communications Team and Water Conservation/Tracking and Assessment Team.
- Identify network to distribute effectively and efficiently water shortage information and assist with the distribution of water conservation information.
- Complete draft media strategy.

**LEGAL:****Additional Information:****Signed:**\_\_\_\_\_

Joe Taylor, Deputy Executive Director  
Water Resources Operations

\_\_\_\_\_  
Olivia McLean, Director of  
Emergency Management

**Distribution:**

SFWMD Governing Board members  
Executive Group  
Governors Office  
Department of Environmental Protection  
US Army Corps of Engineers – Jacksonville/Clewiston Offices